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Case MB 379

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Roland Căsar et al

Title: RECIPROCATING PISTON MACHINE COMPRISING A SLIDING SLEEVE

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 7, 2003

SIR:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SECTION 1.97(b)

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants' representative hereby submits US Patent & Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references cited therein are submitted for consideration in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is respectfully requested that they be made of record, along with whatever references the Examiner may find in the course of a search, should the Examiner consider them material to the subject application.

What is considered to be the closest reference, that is, DE 197 49 727, which is assigned to the assignees of the present application, has been discussed in detail in the introductory part of the application.

The references do not disclose that in a reciprocating-piston machine, in particular a refrigerant compressor for a motor vehicle air-conditioning system, including a machine shaft rotatably supported in a housing, a plurality of pistons arranged circularly around the machine shaft in the housing, and an annular pivoting disc driven by the machine shaft and engaging the pistons via a joint arrangement, the pivoting disc

being connected in an articulated manner to the machine shaft via a driver for transmitting the machine shaft drive forces to the pistons and mounted on a machine shaft-supported sliding body so as to be pivotable about a hinge axis oriented transversely to the machine shaft, the sliding body has an elongated recess which is open at one axial end for receiving the driver and the sliding body further includes at its inside adjacent the machine shaft a cavity, which is in communication with a bore forming a discharge passage extending through the machine shaft.

This Statement is hereby submitted under Section 1.97(b) since it is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K. Bach", written in a cursive style.

Klaus J. Bach, Reg. No.: 26832

